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Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Letter dated 23 August 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 6 (h) of General Assembly resolution ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006, I have the honour to transmit herewith a progress report, dated 24 June 2016, from the Board of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

Letter dated 24 June 2016 from the members of the Board of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to provide the progress report of the Board of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory for transmission to the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 6 (h) of Assembly resolution ES-10/17 (see enclosure).

We request that the progress report be issued as a document of the General Assembly. Our 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 progress reports were issued as documents A/ES-10/455, A/ES-10/498, A/ES-10/522, A/ES-10/598, A/ES-10/599, A/ES-10/658 and A/ES-10/683, respectively.

(*Signed*) Ronald **Bettauer**
Member of the Board

(*Signed*) Harumi **Hori**
Member of the Board

(*Signed*) Matti **Pellonpää**
Member of the Board

Enclosure

Progress report from the Board of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

1. The Board of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (the Register of Damage) provides this progress report, in accordance with paragraph 6 (h) of General Assembly resolution ES-10/17, covering the period from 20 June 2015 to 24 June 2016. Our 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 progress reports were contained in documents A/ES-10/455 (2009), A/ES-10/498 (2010), A/ES-10/522 (2011), A/ES-10/598 (2012), A/ES-10/599 (2013), A/ES-10/658 (2014) and A/ES-10/683 (2015), respectively. Board progress reports, as well as other basic documents pertinent to the work of the Register of Damage, are posted on the Register's website, www.unrod.org.

2. During the reporting period, the Register of Damage continued to collect, process and consider claim forms for inclusion in the Register in accordance with its Rules and Regulations Governing Registration of Claims.

3. Since its launch in 2008, the community outreach campaign has covered 254 communities with a population of approximately 1,135,000 in the governorates of Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Salfit, Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Thousands of printed posters and leaflets were distributed to inform potential claimants of the requirements for completing a claim for registration of damage. In addition, over a hundred meetings were held during the reporting period by the Register of Damage claim intakers with governors, mayors, local councils and potential claimants in the areas covered by the outreach campaign. During the reporting period, the Register of Damage organized two specialized training sessions for mayors and local council officials from the Bethlehem and Jerusalem governorates on legal and organizational aspects of claim intake in their communities.

4. By 24 June 2016, 55,833 claim forms for registration of damage and over 900,000 of supporting documents had been collected and delivered to the Office of the Register of Damage in Vienna. Claim-intake activities have been carried out in all nine affected governorates — Tubas, Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Salfit, Hebron, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The process of claim intake in Bethlehem and Jerusalem is at an advanced stage.

5. As of 24 June 2016, the Board decided to include most or all of the losses set out in 21,765 claim forms and excluded 771 claim forms in which none of the losses met the eligibility criteria, bringing the total number of decided claims to 22,536.

6. During the past year, the Office of the Register of Damage kept an accelerated pace of processing of the claim forms. However, despite the diligent and dedicated work of the secretariat and intensive work of the Board, there is a considerable gap between the number of claim forms collected and the number processed by the Vienna Office.

7. Since its previous report, the Board has held four meetings in Vienna to review claim forms that had been translated, processed and individually reviewed by the

Office staff. The Board met from 14 to 18 September and 30 November to 4 December 2015 and from 7 to 11 March and 20 to 24 June 2016. At the four meetings, respectively, the Board reviewed and decided to include in the Register most or all of the losses set out in 833 claim forms, 762 claim forms, 783 claim forms and 1,249 claim forms. At its September, November-December, March and June meetings, respectively, the Board decided not to include in the Register 14 claim forms, 5 claim forms, 14 claim forms and 31 claim forms, since none of the losses in the forms met the eligibility criteria in the Register of Damage Rules and Regulations.

8. The claim forms reviewed during the reporting period included 2,921 containing category A (agriculture) losses, 578 containing category B (commercial) losses, 122 containing category C (residential) losses and 252 containing category E (access to services) losses.

9. The Board, in its review of claims, continued to apply the eligibility criteria in accordance with article 11 of the Rules and Regulations Governing Registration of Claims. In view of the limited time available and the large number of claims for losses included in claim forms submitted to the Board for review by the Office staff, the Board continued to employ sampling techniques as provided for in article 12 (3) of the Rules and Regulations. During the four meetings covered by this report, Board members reviewed in detail approximately 10.28 per cent of the claims for losses included on the claim forms submitted for review. As indicated in the 2012 Board report, the Executive Director of the Register consulted informally a statistician concerning the sampling methodology; this level of sampling is within statistics' parameters of reliability. Claims that did not meet the eligibility criteria were either excluded from the Register or returned to the claimants in order for them to provide clarification.

10. Previous Board progress reports identified some of the issues addressed and decisions reached during the previous reporting period. The following are among the issues addressed and decisions reached by the Board during the present reporting period:

(a) Reduction in value of land: the Board decided that claims for reduction in value of land may be included where the land is physically affected by the construction of the Wall; that is, the Wall is built on the land or the land is adjacent to the Wall;

(b) The Board decided that land survey documents, which are usually issued by private licensed land surveyors upon the request of landowners, may be treated as official documents in cases where they contain an official stamp. All official documents will be assessed in determining the size of land to be recorded;

(c) Minor variation in plot size in different official documents: the Board decided that where there is a *de minimus* variance in the stated size of a plot in different official records, and the claimed size of the plot matched one of the official records, the claimed size will be recorded;

(d) Collection of pre-Wall debts: The Board decided that failure to obtain payment on debts incurred prior to the construction of the Wall should not normally be considered caused by the construction of the Wall since: (i) payment can still be made by cheque or otherwise; (ii) claimants can still take legal action to collect their

debts; and (iii) it would be difficult for a claimant to show that non-payment has occurred and was caused by the construction of the Wall;

(e) Other pre-Wall losses: In cases where land was used by the Israeli military for their vehicles and tanks several years before the construction of the Wall began, the Board decided to exclude such losses on the basis that they were not proximately connected with the construction of the Wall;

(f) Rerouting of the Wall: In cases where the rerouting of the Wall resulted in land that was previously between the Green Line and the Wall being located on the Occupied Palestinian Territory side of the Wall, the Board decided that there may nevertheless be continuing losses after the rerouting, as the land may require rehabilitation or may no longer be suitable for its previous use;

(g) Agricultural equipment: The Board decided that losses of large items of equipment that could not be easily moved to the Occupied Palestinian Territory side of the Wall may be included while moveable equipment such as tools that could reasonably be expected to be moved should in general be excluded;

(h) Additional relocation expenses: The Board decided to include claims for additional expenses for utilities and food that are related to claimants' relocation caused by the construction of the Wall and which the claimants would otherwise not have incurred;

(i) Access to basic goods: As noted in paragraph 12 (i) of its 2012 report, the Board decided that, in general, claims solely for additional living costs are too speculative to be registered. However, the Board decided that the situation is different where a community is surrounded by the Wall and there have been increased transportation costs for basic goods to transit the Wall, the imposition of quotas, and a lack of viable alternative sources. In such cases, the Board decided to register claims for increased household expenditures resulting from the restriction of access to such goods sustained as a result of the construction of the Wall by such communities.

11. As before, the Board would like to express its appreciation for the indispensable cooperation extended by the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian National Committee for the Register of Damage, as well as for the support provided by local governors, mayors and members of village councils on many practical aspects, without which outreach and claim-intake activities could not be undertaken successfully. As for the Government of Israel, it continues to consider that any claims in relation to damage caused by the construction of the Wall should be addressed through the existing Israeli mechanism. On the practical level, the Executive Director of the Register of Damage continues to maintain constructive contacts with relevant Israeli authorities and, during the reporting period, the Office of the Register of Damage did not experience any problem with access, delivery of needed materials or issuance of required visas. On occasion, the security situation impeded claims-intake activity.

12. The Board of the Register of Damage notes with satisfaction the good cooperation with United Nations agencies and offices present on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as called for in paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution ES-10/17. The Board particularly appreciates the efficient and tangible contribution provided by the United Nations Office for Project Services in the areas of logistics, procurement, human and financial resources, and management in

support of the Register of Damage. During the reporting period, the Register of Damage also continued to benefit from the advice and assistance of the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and cooperation with the Department of Political Affairs.

13. The outreach and claim-intake activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are currently conducted by ten Register of Damage claim intakers, have been funded by voluntary contributions from 21 donors. The Governments of Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Finland, France, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and Turkey, as well as the European Commission and the OPEC Fund for International Development, have donated over $6.4 million. Note may be taken that several Governments, as well as the Fund, have provided donations to the Register of Damage two or more times.

14. The Board would like to express its appreciation to these donors for providing funding and political support enabling the implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution ES-10/17. Nevertheless, the resources that are currently available will be exhausted by the end of June 2016, thus putting into question the continuation of the claim-intake activity in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

15. The Board commends the diligent and dedicated work of the staff of the Office of the Register of Damage.

16. The Board of the Register of Damage will continue to provide periodic reports.

Members of the Board of the Register of Damage
Vienna, 24 June 2016

United Nations A/ES-10/731–S/2016/758

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Identical letters dated 2 September 2016 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

It is with grave concern that I write to draw your attention to the current situation in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, where the Palestinian people are suffering deeply from Israel's nearly 50-year illegal foreign occupation. With each passing day, Israel, the occupying Power, accelerates its illegal settlement campaign and strategic and systematic home demolitions, further confirming its true intentions to maintain its occupation of Palestine and to construct and expand illegal settlements and annex Palestinian land in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. This colonization campaign is in clear breach of international law and in absolute defiance of the international community's strong condemnations. They are also in complete contradiction of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and are further dimming the prospects for peace.

It is in this vein that I am compelled to highlight recent Israeli Government settlement announcements and demolitions of Palestinian homes and properties, which continue to be seized forcibly, displacing Palestinian families, including children. All of this is being done in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention, as well as of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. These decisions taken at the highest level, convened at the insistence of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Army Minister Avigdor Lieberman, are evidence of the true intentions of the occupying Power and are undermining the two-State solution.

Just this week, the occupying Power announced the approval of more illegal settlements in the Occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, further proving its illegal expansionist agenda. On 31 August 2016, the occupying Power approved more than 460 new settlement units. A total of 285 new settlement units approved have been slated for construction, including 234 units in the so-called settlement of "Elkana", south of Nablus; 31 units in the so-called settlement of "Beit Arye"; and

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20 units in the so-called settlement of "Giv'at Ze'ev", in occupied East Jerusalem. The occupying Power took their belligerent settlement campaign further by retroactively "legalizing" 179 settlement units constructed in "Beit Arye" in the 1980s. Here, we echo the statement by Nickolay Mladenov, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, at the 29 August briefing to the Security Council, "Let me be clear: no legal acrobatics can change the fact that all outposts — whether 'legalized' under Israeli law or not, whether located on State land, absentee land or private land — just like all settlements in Area C and East Jerusalem, remain illegal under international law." Furthermore, it was reported that the occupying Power intends to approve more illegal settlement units in the near future, including 30 units in the so-called settlement of "Efrat".

All the while, and in direct correlation with this illegal settlement campaign, Israel, the occupying Power, has continued unabated in its malicious destruction of Palestinian homes, also in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention and in defiance of the international calls to halt such actions. One of the most glaring recent examples occurred on 29 August, when Israeli occupying forces demolished and forced Palestinian residents to self-demolish a total of 11 structures, rendering 28 people homeless, including 18 children in the Bedouin community of Maazi Jaba in occupied East Jerusalem. It is important to note that over 70 per cent of Palestinian Bedouins in the occupied West Bank are refugees. On 30 August, Israeli occupying forces demolished three homes in occupied East Jerusalem in the neighbourhood of Sur Bahir, rendering five Palestinians homeless. Also on 30 August, Israeli occupying forces punitively demolished the family home of Mohammed Abd Al-Majid Amayreh, in the town of Dura, south of Al-Khalil, rendering his family homeless. We condemn all acts of collective punishment by the occupying Power, which are in blatant violation of international law.

Moreover, Israeli settlers continue with their acts of violence and terror against Palestinian civilians and their properties. Extremists continue to raid Palestinian villages, harassing, intimidating and attacking civilians, including, in particular, children and herders, and also continue their incursions into Haram al-Sharif, in Occupied East Jerusalem. In the recent period, 65 Israeli settlers escorted by "Israeli intelligence officers" stormed the Al-Aqsa mosque compound, in occupied East Jerusalem, further stoking tensions.

While there is international consensus on the illegality of the settlement regime in its various manifestations and on the grave threat posed to peace by illegal Israeli policies and practices in this regard, nothing has been done to put an end to them. This has encouraged Israel, the occupying Power, to pursue and intensify its illegal actions. We call on the international community to take a firm and principled stand against all illegal Israeli actions against the Palestinian people and their land. Israel, the occupying Power, must unequivocally halt all settlement activities in all areas of Occupied Palestine, including in and around Occupied East Jerusalem. The Security Council in particular has a clear role to play in this regard and must act to uphold and implement its own resolutions. The international community must act responsibly and take serious and bold action aimed at compelling Israel to immediately cease its crimes and violations once and for all, before it is too late, and end the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 so that the Palestinian people can finally live in freedom and dignity in their own independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

This letter is in follow-up to our 593 previous letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 23 August 2016 (A/ES-10/729-S/2016/735) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/732–S/2016/770

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Identical letters dated 8 September 2016 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I write to alert you to the grave situation and continuously rising tensions in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, as a result of Israel's relentless provocations and illegal actions against the Palestinian people. On a daily basis, the occupying Power persists with its grave violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, which are exacerbating the humanitarian situation on the ground, intensifying the hardships faced by the Palestinian people and diminishing any hope of achieving peace based on the two-State solution.

Today, we bring your immediate attention to the critical situation of Palestinian political prisoners illegally imprisoned and detained by Israel. Thousands of Palestinians, among them women and children, continue to be held in deplorable conditions and subjected to grave human rights violations. In particular, I must underscore the plight of three hunger-striking prisoners risking their lives in a peaceful, non-violent protest of their detention without charge. In this regard, Malik Al-Qadi, age 20, and brothers, Mohammed Al-Balboul, age 25, and Mahmoud Al-Balboul, age 21, have been on a continuous hunger strike for more than 67 days and are almost facing inevitable death after being neglected and treated inhumanely by Israeli occupation authorities.

The three hunger strikers are now hospitalized in Israeli hospitals due to the severe deterioration in their health. Mohammed is currently suffering from temporary blindness. His health condition worsened after hospital staff and Israeli occupying authorities attempted to force-feed him, which is considered a form of torture. Meanwhile, Mahmoud's health has also deteriorated and he risks becoming paralyzed. The brothers were arrested alongside each other during a violent predawn raid by Israeli occupying forces who invaded their family home in Bethlehem in the Occupied West Bank on 4 July 2016. At the same time, Malik has been on a hunger strike since 11 July, after being arrested on 23 May 2016, also in Bethlehem. He is

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suffering from severe pain in the chest and abdomen and has been told by doctors that he is risking organ damage.

We urge the international community to take action to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease these condemnable practices and to heed the calls for the release of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and detention centres and for respect for their human rights. Serious efforts must be made by the international community to compel Israel to comply with international law, including humanitarian law, specifically article 76 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which clearly defines the rights of protected persons faced with detention by an occupying Power. The international community must ensure that the occupying Power acts humanely towards the peaceful, non-violent hunger-striking prisoners and release them and all other Palestinians being unlawfully and arbitrarily imprisoned and detained.

Moreover, the occupying Power carried out yet another extrajudicial execution, killing Mustafa Nimr, age 27, and seriously wounding his cousin, Ali Nimr, in Shuafat refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem. The occupying forces had been in the camp carrying out a violent raid when Mustafa and Ali returned back to the camp after going food shopping. When they arrived at the camp, Israeli occupying forces riddled their car with over 60 bullets and they also opened fire on ambulances trying to reach the young men for over an hour. Mustafa was declared dead at the scene but his body was taken by Israeli occupying forces and is being withheld from his family. Ali is currently in Hadassah hospital in occupied East Jerusalem and is being treated for critical blood loss. In another exposé of the complete disregard for Palestinian human life and the immoral behaviour of Israeli occupying forces, a video that was taken of the tragic incident has surfaced showing Israel's occupying forces shooting at the car after it had been stopped. These latest extrajudicial executions highlight the continuing need for international protection for the Palestinian people. Moreover, we demand justice for our people and call for the international community to hold the perpetrators of this latest crime responsible for their war crimes. The culture of impunity that Israel has enjoyed for a half a century at the expense of innocent Palestinian life due to the inaction by the international community must come to an immediate end.

The international community cannot continue absolving Israel, the occupying Power, of its responsibility for these violations and of its obligations under international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. We call on the international community, including the Security Council, to act with urgency and responsibility to ensure the de-escalation of this perilous situation in Occupied Palestine, including in particular in Occupied East Jerusalem, and to bring a halt to the occupying Power's violations of international law, which are unjustifiable in any way, remain the source of grave hardship and suffering for the Palestinian people, and seriously jeopardize the prospects for realizing a peaceful, just settlement on the basis of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders.

This letter is in follow-up to our 594 previous letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 2 September 2016 (A/ES-10/731-S/2016/758) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the

occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/733–S/2016/801

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Security Council

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Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Identical letters dated 20 September 2016 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I am compelled to draw your attention to the very fragile, unstable situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem — the Territory that constitutes the State of Palestine — due to the continued illegal policies and practices being pursued by Israel, the occupying Power, in grave breach of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and in blatant disregard for the lives of Palestinian civilians held hostage under its occupation.

The suffering and hardships of the Palestinian people are growing exponentially under the impact of Israel's illegal and punitive measures and the diminished prospects for peace are dwindling further. The consequences of inaction are far-reaching, especially in light of the volatile situation on the ground and throughout the region, and require urgent attention and action by the international community to redress this ongoing injustice and to salvage any prospects for peace, if even possible. We call for such action at a time when world leaders congregate at the United Nations during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly to tackle a host of crises, particularly regarding the immense refugee and migrant crisis and the ongoing threats to international peace and security. In this regard, we firmly believe that Israel's nearly 50-year foreign military occupation of Palestine poses one of the most significant and longest-standing threats to international peace and security and as such should be given urgent attention.

We also must inform you that lethal and indiscriminate force continues to be routinely meted out by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian civilian population, causing wilful and wanton death and injury in grave violation of international humanitarian law. Since our last letter to you on 8 September 2016 (A/ES-10/732-S/2016/770), more than six Palestinians, as well as one Jordanian citizen, have been killed by Israeli occupying forces. Moreover, one Palestinian child was

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killed by an illegal Israeli settler in an apparent deliberate hit-and-run car attack. In this regard, we must add to the record of Israeli crimes following the deaths and injuries of Palestinian civilians:

- On Saturday, 10 September 2016, Lama Marwan Mousa, age 6, was run over and killed by an illegal Israeli settler in the village of Al-Khader south of Bethlehem, on the road to the illegal Israeli settlement of "Efrat" in the southern occupied West Bank. Lama was standing on the sidewalk in front of her house when a fast-moving vehicle approached and hit her. The impact reportedly broke her neck. She was pronounced dead at the scene.
- On Monday, 12 September 2016, two Palestinian teenagers, Naim Ahmad Ziad Abu Daoud, age 17, and Iyad Naim Abu Daoud, age 19, were critically injured after an Israeli military bus ran them over in Al-Fahs area south of Al-Khalil in southern occupied West Bank. According to eyewitnesses, the two teenagers were visiting relatives nearby when they were run over, and the Israeli military vehicle fled away from the scene. Both boys sustained life-threatening injuries and remain in critical condition.
- Overnight on Thursday, 15 September 2016, Mohammed Ahmad Al-Sarrahin, age 30, died after succumbing to wounds sustained earlier that day when occupying forces raided the village of Beit Ula in the district of Al-Khalil and shot live fire at Mohammed while attempting to detain him.
- On Friday, 16 September 2016, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Fares Moussa Mohammed Khaddour, age 18, and seriously wounded his fiancée, Raghad Abdullah Khaddour, age 18, at the entrance of the illegal settlemen. "Kiryat Arba" in Al-Khalil in southern occupied West Bank. Tragically for their family and friends, Raghad is the sister of Majd Khaddour, who was killed by Israeli occupying forces at the same intersection in June 2016.
- On Friday, 16 September 2016, Israeli occupying forces shot dead Abdul Ghani Shaludi, age 26, at the entrance of Tel Rumeida neighbourhood in Al-Khalil's Old City. Israeli occupying forces prevented a Palestinian Red Crescent ambulance from reaching the scene.
- On Friday, 16 September 2016, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Said Al-Amr, age 28, a Jordanian youth in occupied East Jerusalem at the Damascus Gate in the Old City.
- On Friday, 16 September 2016, Mohammed Thalji Al-Rajabi, age 15, was shot dead by Israeli occupying forces near the Old City of Al-Khalil, making him the third Palestinian killed by Israeli occupying forces in less than 24 hours.
- On Friday, 16 September 2016, in the besieged Gaza Strip, Israeli occupying forces shot and injured two Palestinians after clashes broke out during protests east of Al-Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza, when several youths gathered near the border fence to protest Israel's policies in the occupied West Bank and the ongoing Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip.
- On Sunday, 18 September 2016, Israeli occupying forces opened live fire and injured a Palestinian man, Bahaa Odeh, age 20, outside the illegal Israeli settlement "Efrat", south of Bethlehem. Eyewitnesses at the scene said that the Israeli occupying forces left him to bleed on the ground.

- On Monday, 19 September 2016, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Muhannad Al-Rajaby, age 21, and Ameer Al-Rajaby, age 17, near Al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil.

- Today, 20 September 2016, a 16-year-old child, Issa Salem Tarayra, was shot and killed by Israeli occupying forces near the town of Bani Naim, east of Al-Khalil.

The killing and injury of Palestinian men, women and children under Israeli occupation, such as the numerous tragic crimes detailed above, must be addressed. It cannot be that a people under occupation for nearly five decades can be left defenceless, denied the protections of international law, including humanitarian law and human rights law, while the occupying Power is appeased and permitted to continue with its flagrant impunity, disrespecting both the rule of law and the sanctity of human life.

The occupying Power also persists with all of its other policies and measures against the defenceless Palestinian population in grave violation of international law. This includes the continued building and expansion of illegal Israeli settlements, home demolitions, the arrest and detention of Palestinian civilians, as well as other collective measures against the Palestinian people, which include draconian restrictions of movement by the use of military curfews, closures and checkpoints throughout the occupied State of Palestine as well as the continuation of its immoral and illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip.

The destructive impact of the above-mentioned Israeli violations is immense, as reflected in rising tensions, deteriorating socioeconomic conditions and deepening anger and frustration among the Palestinian civilian population living under this nearly half-century-old occupation. With the high number of deaths over the past week, we call again on the international community, particularly the Security Council, to act now to provide protection to the Palestinian people and to diffuse this volatile situation, which clearly constitutes a threat to international peace and security. As we have stated in the past, the Palestinian people cannot remain the exception to the international commitments to and obligations under international law, including the obligation to protect civilians from atrocities and grave breaches, i.e. war crimes. The tragic events listed above only provide more evidence of the occupying Power's total disregard for the lives and rights of the Palestinian people as well as its total contempt for international law. The time is now for the international community to finally bring an end to Israel's impunity and to bring an end to this brutal, illegal nearly 50-year-long occupation in order to bring overdue justice to the Palestinian people and so that the Palestinian people can finally live in freedom and dignity in their own independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

This letter is in follow-up to our 595 previous letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 8 September 2016 (A/ES-10/732-S/2016/770) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the

Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations